Pocket-Sized Forward Entry Device

Description

The Army has fielded the Pocket-Sized Forward Entry Device (PFED). The PFED enables the Forward Observer (FO) to digitally transmit the Call for Fire (CFF) to the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS). It is a small, portable, ruggedized, communications-enabled computer that allows the operator to digitally communicate with artillery units to mark targets, while performing artillery and mortar fire missions. The PFED is used to compose, edit, transmit, receive, store, and display messages, and process data used in the conduct, planning, and execution of fire missions. It interfaces via cables to the Precision Lightweight GPS (Global Positioning System) Receiver, or PLGR, a laser rangefinder, and Single-Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS). Using the PLGR to determine the FO's position and the laser rangefinder to determine the location of the target with respect to the PLGR location, the PFED computes the target location and displays it for the FO. This information is automatically entered into a CFF message. The completed CFF message is then transmitted to the supporting AFATDS.

Operational Impact

The PFED provides the ground fire support community with the digital entry capability that was requested to support Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). The Marine Corps fielded the PFED as an interim device for FOs to increase accuracy and speed up the CFF process, thus providing more responsive fire support to the warfighter. The PFED functionality is being incorporated into the Target Location, Designation and Hand-Off System (TLDHS) Block II. TLDHS Block II will replace the PFED.

Program Status

The PFED has been designated an Abbreviated Acquisition Program. As a part of the TLDHS program, the PFED was an interim solution to provide more responsive fire support capability. Full Operational Capability (FOC) of 151 PFEDs was achieved in September 2004.

Procurement Profile:	FY 05	FY 06
Quantity:	0	0

Developer/Manufacturer:

Hardware:

Talla-Tech, Tallahassee, FL

Modem:

Raytheon Systems Company, Ft. Wayne, IN

Software:

Booze Allen Hamilton, McLean, VA